



United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



Prepared by the Capitol Visitor Center Project Office, Architect of the Capitol

September 6, 2005



Below a skylight opening in the Great Hall, a stone mason checks the alignment of sandstone blocks that have been set on the east wall.

This Week – Ongoing Work – 9/05/05 through 9/09/05

CVC and East Front Plaza:

- Workers continue to install mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems, erect masonry block work and metal stud walls, place concrete, install finish stone, and apply plaster to interior spaces.
- Stone crews will continue installing sandstone on the west wall of the Great Hall. Stone installation is 95% complete on the north, south and east walls.
- Stone installation will continue inside both Orientation Theaters.
- The installation of marble tile has been completed in two restrooms, which will serve as mock-ups for other restrooms.
- Construction of a small underground tunnel that will connect the House wing directly to the Capitol Visitor Center will continue adjacent to the House Steps and House Carriageway. Access will be maintained at all times to the House Carriageway Member and Staff Entrance, the South Door Entrance and the House Steps.
- Demolition of the Senate Plaza parking lot is complete as well as the installation of a new fire hydrant near the Senate Steps. A new concrete slab has been placed and vehicle access through the Senate Carriageway is available for Member drop-off. While work continues to restore the Plaza and historic elements, pedestrian access will be maintained at all times to the North Door Entrance and the Senate Carriageway Member and Staff Entrance.
- Re-stripping of Northwest Drive was completed during the past weekend and the Drive is available for staff parking.
- Crews continue layout activities and installation of underslab conduit and the floor topping slabs on the lower levels of the House and Senate Expansion Space. Installation of ductwork continues on the lower level of the House Expansion Space.



Workers prepare plumbing fixtures and conduit for a water feature near the stairs along the southeast corner of the Great Hall.

East Capitol Street Utility Tunnel

- Work on East Capitol Street has been halted through Wednesday, September 7, 2005, to minimize noise and traffic disruptions during lying-in-repose ceremonies and funeral services for the late Chief Justice William Rehnquist.
- First Street continues to be constricted to clear the way for construction of a temporary bridge in this zone. One lane of traffic is being maintained in each direction at all times. The sidewalk along the west side of First Street NE/SE (Capitol side) has been closed for the bridge construction. Access for pedestrians and persons with disabilities is available on the east side of First Street (along the Supreme Court and Library of Congress).
- Utility connections to steam and chilled water lines at Second Street have been completed. Crews will begin installation of pipe within the new tunnel.

Next Week – 9/12/05 – 9/16/05

CVC and East Front Plaza Work

- Crews will continue to install ductwork and piping for all heating, cooling, supply, waste water, fire protection, and electrical systems; build mechanical spaces, install cable trays, place concrete, erect blockwork and metal stud walls, and install finish stone in areas on all three levels of the CVC.
- Crews may begin erecting an exterior hoist (elevator for transport of materials) just north of the East Front Center Steps in front of the original Senate Wing. The hoist will be used to transport masonry blocks and other construction materials to all levels of the East Front Extension, which serves as the primary transition zone between the Capitol and the Visitor Center.
- Construction of a small underground tunnel that will connect the House wing directly to the Capitol Visitor Center will continue adjacent to the House Steps and House Carriageway. Access will be maintained at all times to the House Carriageway Member and Staff Entrance, the South Door Entrance and the House Steps.
- Restoration of the Senate Plaza will continue. Vehicle access through the Senate Carriageway and to the Senate Steps is available for Member drop-off.
- Installation of pipe will continue inside the new utility tunnel along East Capitol Street between First and Second Streets.

If you have any questions about the Capitol Visitor Center Project, please contact Tom Fontana, Project Communications Officer at (202) 228-1310 or by e-mail at tfontana@aac.gov. For this and previous editions of the Weekly Construction Summary, visit our web site at www.aoc.gov (click on the "Capitol Visitor Center" link).